



Miami-Dade County

## COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES (CODI) Transportation & Aviation Committee Meeting Minutes

*Stephen P. Clark Center (SPCC)  
111 N.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Miami, Florida 33128  
18<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room 18-4*

	Date:	Monday, Sept. 14, 2015	
	Time:	1:00 p.m. – 3 p.m.	
	Call to Order Time:	1:10 p.m.	
	Meeting Adjourned:	2:49 p.m.	
I.	<b><u>Opening and Attendance:</u></b> Attendance recorded. Call to Order. Copies of documents were distributed.		
	District 1 Commissioner Jordan	Damian Gregory* 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman	Excused Absence
	District 2 Commissioner Monestime	Jackson David	
	District 3 Commissioner Edmonson	Jose Granda Access Committee Chair	
	District 4 Commissioner Heyman	Jesus Garcia* Transportation Committee Chair & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair	Present
	District 5 Commissioner Barreiro	Ernie Martinez* CODI Chairman	Excused Absence
	District 6 Commissioner Sosa	Ora Prilleltensky*	Present Via Speaker phone
	District 7 Commissioner Suarez	Harry Horgan Outreach Committee Chair	
	District 8 Commissioner Cava	Elizabeth Merkling*	Present
	District 9 Commissioner Moss	Ronald Fulton* CODI Secretary	Present
	District 10 Commissioner Souto	Russell Otway	
	District 11 Commissioner Zapata	Pending Appointment	
	District 12 Commissioner Diaz	Maria Mercedes Villar	
	District 13 Commissioner Bovo	Alan Rigerman	

	<p><b>Miami-Dade County Staff Present</b></p> <p><b>Heidi Johnson-Wright</b> ISD, ADA Coordinator</p> <p><b>Skarlex Alorda</b> ISD, ADA CODI Support &amp; Recording Secretary</p> <p><b>Joseph Gonzalez</b>, MMS, Safety &amp; Compliance Officer</p> <p><b>Marcos Ortega</b>, MDT, ADA Compliance</p> <p><b>Lynette Chiverton</b>, MDT, Paratransit Operations Administrator</p> <p><b>Dan White</b>, MDT, Paratransit Support Specialist</p> <p><b>Transportation America:</b></p> <p><b>Members of the Public</b></p> <p><b>John Williams</b></p> <p><b>Juan Carlos Gil</b></p> <p><b>Paul Edwards</b></p> <p><b>Michael Wiseman</b></p> <p><b>Frederick Haynes</b></p> <p><b>Willie Lucas</b></p> <p><b>Stanley Shapiro</b></p>	
<b>II.</b>	<b>Approval of Agenda &amp; Minutes</b>	<p>Chairman Garcia requested a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Fulton made the motion and Ms. Merkling seconded. Motion passed.</p> <p>Chairman Garcia requested a motion to approve the March 17, 2015 minutes. Mr. Fulton made the motion and Ms. Merkling seconded. Motion passed.</p>
<b>III.</b>	<b>Open Comments</b>	<p><b>Special Transportation System (STS)</b></p> <p>Mr. Wiseman is a member of the public who rides Special Transportation Service (STS). Mr. Wiseman reiterated the events that took place on STS. Mr. Wiseman had shared this information at the previous CODI Transportation Committee meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Wiseman has witnessed health and safety problems going unresolved, including riders urinating in vehicles, excrement in vehicles, riders using profanity and elderly riders being physically abused by other riders. Even after such incidents, the perpetrators are permitted to continue using the service.</p> <p>Disciplinary action needs to be taken, including suspending riders from the service. He has begun to fear for his own safety. Mr. Wiseman is concerned that such complaints are not being investigated.</p>

		<p>Ms. Chiverton said more staff is being trained to handle complaints. Also, a lot of parents use paratransit to take their children to school. The County cannot prevent children from riding on STS. All rider complaints are forwarded from the vendor to Transit. The vendor has seven days to respond. A discussion ensued.</p> <p>Chairman Garcia said that an STS driver's job is to drive, not control passengers or police behavior. He asked what happens if an underage rider or rider with cognitive impairment arrives at a destination where there is no supervision. Ms. Chiverton said that if an incident report is filed, Transit will advise the caregiver.</p> <p>Ms. Merkling said that Transportation America claims their vehicles are cleaned and sanitized after an incident. She requested CODI be provided with reports every six months about when vehicles are being cleaned. Ms. Chiverton said Transit does not track instances of blood-born substance contamination. A discussion began about how to file STS rider complaints. Chairman Garcia said there are two ways to file: call 786-469-5000 or file online.</p> <p><b>STS Quarterly Report</b></p> <p>Ms. Chiverton reviewed the STS Quarterly Report from April 2015 - June 2015. Per day trip number is 4,500.</p>
<b>IV.</b>	<b>Information Items</b>	<p><b>South Miami-Dade Busway Resolution</b></p> <p>Chairman Garcia said that the resolution was submitted and CODI is supposed to receive a report in two weeks. No further information has been provided.</p> <p><b>Dadeland South Metrorail Station Update</b></p> <p>Mr. Ortega said this matter is complicated because the articulated 60-foot buses require a lot of maneuverability space. The crosswalk will remain and the bus bays will be redesigned. A restoration of the station is in the planning stage.</p> <p>Ms. Merkling said the Dadeland South station has a recurring problem with a non-functioning elevator. Mr. Ortega said the delay caused by parts on order. Ms. Prilleltensky said she will no longer use the Dadeland South station because of this problem. Chairman Garcia said that the only way that this situation will be resolved is when the Department of Justice gets involved.</p> <p>Regarding Metrorail station and train line announcements, Mr. Ortega said train operators do announce for riders whether it's Orange or Green line. Mr. Wiseman said yes, after the train doors close. Ms. Alorda said that she rides the metro bus and train every day. The operators do announce but some say the announcement so fast one cannot understand it. A discussion ensued.</p>
<b>V.</b>	<b>Adjournment:</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 2:49pm.